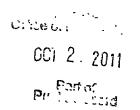
1000 Papere III Road Post Office Box 849 Grenada, MS 38902 0849 USA T 662 227 7900 abitibibowater.com





October 21, 2011



Cynthia T. Brown Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

23/180

Re: Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment of railroad line between Milepost 622.5 and milepost 703.8. – In Mississippi – STB Docket AB-1087X

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing in opposition to the application filed by Grenada Railway LLC ("GRYR") for abandonment of the railroad line between milepost 622.5 near Grenada. Mississippi and milepost 703.8 near Canton, Mississippi, a distance of 81.3 miles in Grenada, Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo, and Madison Counties, MS.

Our company uses the Grenada Railway line to ship over 80,000 tons of newsprint annually to customers located predominantly in the Southern U.S. and Mexico. As a result, we moved approximately 1,000 cars per year through this southern section and over the Canton, MS interchange. The application filed by the GRYR does not mention this volume, apparently because it does not originate in the section cited for abandonment, but indeed; it travels through it. The reasons for excluding our volumes from the abandonment application is unclear, however we can assure you that the total volume moving on the southern line and provided by the GRYR is factually inaccurate. Abandonment of this line forces us into more expensive, less competitive alternatives while we are already challenged by the current business clima e to manage costs.

It is our opinion, that the GRYR has since the purchase of the line from the Canadian National Railway (Illinois Central) some one and a half years ago, engaged in a strategy to systematically discourage traffic over the southern section, through reductions in service levels and by increasing rates by 40%.

We believe that the GRYR intentionally drove customers like us away from the line in order to make a credible case for abandonment, without taking into consideration the potential negative economic impacts such actions would have on existing customers and the regional economy.

AbitibiBowater, Grenada Operations, on an annual basis accounts for over \$19 million in local payroll & benefits and purchases in excess of \$30 million in materials and services from the local and regional economies. We have 179 permanent, full-time employees. The threat to competitive transportation options could have a devastating effect on our operation and consequential negative impacts upon the local and regional economy.

I urge you to consider the economic health of our industries and our communities as you analyze Grenada Railway's abandonment application.

I certify that the foregoing letter has been served upon each of the parties of record by e-mail, facsimile transmission or prepaid first-class mail.

Sincerely,

Wade II. Taylor General Manager

Wack N. Saylor

Cc: Mr. Fritz R. Kahn Fritz R. Kahn, P.C. 1920 N Street, N.W. (8th Floor) Washington, DC 20036

> Mr. Pablo Diaz Grenada County Economic Development District 81 South Church Street Grenada, MS 38901